

# Find Me 911 Coalition

<u>Find me 911</u> is an effort supported by more than <u>80,000 individuals</u> and a dozen organizations – numbers that are steadily growing. The individuals and organizations represent a broad range of 911 operators and first responders – emergency medical services personnel, fire fighters and police – as well as members of the general public. They all recognize the critically important public safety need to ensure that 911 works in today's wireless age.

Organizations that have already signed on include:

- American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM), which represents more than 2,400 emergency physicians;
- International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO (IUPA), which represents more than 70,000 law enforcement professionals and law enforcement support personnel;
- **911Lifeline,** a membership association providing services and resources to the nation's 911 professionals;
- **U.S. First Responders Association** (USFRA), a non-profit professional and social network of firefighters, EMS, rescue, law enforcement, military and civilian support teams;
- Basecamp Expeditions, disaster readiness consultants;
- Lights 4 Love, a non-profit with a mission of improving 911 response times;
- The Fire Fighter Cancer Foundation (FFCF), established to provide international outreach, support, and resource assistance programs for fire fighters and family members who are stricken by cancer; and
- State and Local 911 Organizations, including Grays Harbor E-911 (Wash.); Iron County 911 (Mo.); Effingham 911 (III.); Susquehanna Fire & Rescue Co. #4 (Pa.); Claiborne County Office of Emergency Management Homeland Security (Tenn.); Newberg Volunteer Rescue Squad & Fire Department (Ore.); Grassy Fork Volunteer Fire Department (Tenn.); Wood County Dispatch Center (Wis.); and Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company (Pa.).

Find Me 911 is diverse in geography and diverse in first responders. The coalition includes members in all 50 states, from New York to Chicago and from Houston to Casper, Wyoming. It includes New York police officers, firefighters in rural Tennessee and Missouri, dispatchers from Indiana, and the administrators of big city 911 departments in California.

## A Sampling of Comments from Those Who've Joined:

"...In the wireless era, accurate information to locate 911 callers is of the utmost importance. AAEM supports Find Me 911's mission to provide first responders with the most accurate location information and thereby help to reduce transport time to the emergency department. When seconds are critical, quick, safe transport is in the best interest of the patient and the treating emergency physician."

### -The American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM)

"We dispatchers have been begging for new cell advances for damnation and a day. The time has come."

#### - Indiana 911 dispatcher

"In an emergency the clock is ticking and not in your favor. . . The faster they find you the more options they have to save you. Emergency responders cannot save you if they cannot find you. Period."

#### -Basecamp Expeditions

"I'm a 911 dispatcher and know the difficulties. Emergency situations mess people up. Even if you can talk, it's no guarantee that you can think or speak clearly."

#### Indiana 911 dispatcher

"We're proud to support the effort that best protects the public and provide the 911 Communications personnel with the essential information to get responders to an emergency scene as soon as possible."

-911Lifeline

"Location is key. It can mean life or death."

- Tennessee 911 dispatcher

"One minute late in this world too frequently means someone makes it one minute to early into the next world. Time is KING!"

#### - California emergency responder instructor

"...By creating a quicker, more efficient response time, to police, firefighters and emergency medical teams, more lives will be saved."

#### -Lights 4 Love

Having accurate location information is "Extremely important. Could be life or death." – West Virginian

"Our motto is 'Providing the people of Wood County the help they need when they need it the most' and that is not possible without proper information and location from our callers. The last time I ran our numbers we are receiving almost 90% of our calls from cellular/voip so we have lost the typical ANI/ALI information we had with 'house' phones. Now we are dependent on the GPS and other technologies to provide us the proper information. Efforts like this one to strengthen the 911 system are valuable. I am one voice but a group like this can speak much louder."

—Dispatch Manager, Wood County Wisconsin

"It could be extremely important to know where you are and the more information the better. It's a race against time and it's life and death."

-Missouri grocery store worker

"The FFCF supports this effort!"

-Fire Fighter Cancer Foundation